ARTICLES EXHIBITED IN PARLIAMENT AGAINST VVILLIAM ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBVRY, 1640.

Printed in the Yeare 1640.

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ARTICLES EXHIBITED IN PARLIAMENT AGAINST WILLIAM ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY, 1640.

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Articles of the Commons assembled in Parliament, in maintenance of the accusation, Whereby WILLIAM LAUD Arch-Bishop of Canterbury, stands charged with high Treason.

I.

THat the said *William Laud*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, hath traiterously laboured to subvert the fundamental Lawes and Government of the Kingdome, by giving his Majestie advice privately, and in other places said, that hee would have them governd by Civil Lawes, and further said he would make the proudest subject in the Kingdom give way to him, and beeing told it was against law, he replied he would make it Law, and that the King might at his owne pleasure take a way without Law and make it warrantable by Gods Law.

II.

His countenancing of Books & their Authors for the maintenance of his unlimited and absolute power, wherein the power of the Parliament is denied, and the Bishps power of Prelacy set up.

III.

That he traiterously went about to interrupt the Iudges by his threathnings, & other meanes, to constraine them to give false Iudgement in the case of Ship money, as will appeare both by writings, and his hand, by testimony of divers persons of good worth and quality.

IV.

That he hath taken bribes, and sold Iustice in the high Commission Court, as Archbishop, and hath not onely corrupted the Iudges there, but hath also sold Iudiciall places to be corrupted.

V.

That he hath endevoured the encroachment of Iurisdiction and institution of Canons, which are not onely unlawfull, but prejudiciall to the subject: and that hee hath exercised his authority very cruelly, both as a Chancellour, Commissioner, and Iudge.

VI.

That he hath traiterously assumed a capitall power over his Majesties subjects, denying

ing his power of Prelacy as from the King.

VII.

That by falſe erroneous Doctrines and other ſiniſter wayes and meanes Hee went about to ſubvert the Religion eſtabliſhed in this Kingdome, and to ſet up Papiſtrie and ſuperſtition in the Church.

VIII.

That by undue meanes and practice hee hath gotten into his hand the power of nominating of Miniſters to Spirituall promotions, and hath preferred none but ſcandalous Miniſters thereunto, and that hee preferred corrupt Chaplains to His Majeſty.

IX.

That his owne Miniſters, as *Heywood*, *Laiſield* and others, are notoriouſly diſaffected to Religion.

X.

That he hath Trayterouſly endeavoured to reconcile us to the Church of Rome, and to that end hath employed a *Jeſuite* and a *Papiſt-Prieſt*, and hath wrought with the Popes Agents in ſeverall points.

XI.

That to ſuppreſſe preaching, Hee hath ſuſpended divers good men, and uſed unlawfull meanes by Letters, and otherwiſe to ſeverall Biſhops, to ſuppreſſe them.

XII.

That he hath Trayterously endeavoured to suppresse the *French* Religion, here amongst us, which is the same we are off, and the *Dutch* Church, and to set division betweene them and us.

XIII.

That he hath Trayterously endeavoured to set Division betweene the King and his Subjects, and hath gone about to bring in Innovations into the Church: And hath induced the King to Warre with the *Scots*, and many upon their death Bedds, to give towards the maintenance of the Warre: And hath caused the Clergie to give freely towards the same, and hath brought in many Superstitions and Innovations into the Church of *Scotland*: And that hee procured the King to breake the pacification, thereby to cause a bloody Warre between the Kingdomes.

XIIII.

That to preserve Himselfe from being questioned, for these and other his Trayterous designes, from the first yeare of his Majesties raigne untill now, he hath laboured to subvert the rites of Parliamentary proceedings, and to incense his Majesty against Parliaments.

By

By all which Words, Councells, and Actions hee hath Trayterously laboured to alienate the hearts of the Kings leige people from his Majesty, to set a Division between them; and to ruine and destroy His Majesties Kingdomes. For which they impeach him of High Treason against our Soveraigne Lord the King, his Crowne and Dignity.

And the said Commons, by protestation saving to themselves the liberty of exhibiting at any time hereafter, any other Accusation or Impeachment against the said WILLIAM LAUD, Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*. And also, of replying to the Answers that he, the said Arch-Bishop shall make unto the said Articles, or any of them.

And of offering proofe also of the Premisses, or any of them, or any other Impeachment or Accusation, that shall bee exhibited by them, as the course of Parliaments require. DOE PRAY, that he the said *William Laud*, Archbishop of *Canterbury* may be put speedily to answer for all and every the Premisses, that such Proceedings, Examinations, Trials & Iudgments, may bee upon every one of them had and used, as is agreeable to Law and Justice.

FINIS.